

Covid-19: organization challenges with remote work in epilepsy

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I hope that you are all doing well and your beloved are staying healthy!

I will not say more about this situation, which has brought hardship to many.

While some centers have had prior experience with telemedicine technology, In this crisis, many of us are heavily reliant on telemedicine to care for our patients with epilepsy.

The goal of this survey is to assess both physicians and patient satisfaction with telemedicine, organizational practices, and determine in which situations telemedicine will have a more permanent role in our practice in the future.

The survey will include 4 parts: General information, Telemedicine technology for clinical practice and educational purpose.

The parts 3 and 4 are optional and mainly concern teaching and meeting activities

We invite international collaborators involved in clinical care, education and research in child neurology to participate.

I hope that you will be able to dedicate fifteen to twenty minutes to fill it. Take care and stay safe,

Best,

Rima Nabbout, MD, PhD

Reference centre for rare epilepsies, Hôpital Necker-Enfants Malades, Paris, France

There are 50 questions in this survey.

Next

Part 1: General information

Please provide your email address?

📧 xxx@xxx.xxx or xxx@xxx.xx (optional)

📧 Please check the format of your answer.

*Where do you work?

Institution

City

States/Country

*How old are you?

📌 Choose one of the following answers

☐ 30 - 40

☐ 40-50

☐ 50-60

☐ 60-70

☐ >70

*Gender

☐ Female

☐ Male

*Are you ...

☐ Paediatric neurologist / epileptologist

☐ Adult neurologist / epileptologist

☐ Both

☐ Other:

*Please state the following for your institution

📌 Check all that apply

☐ Private

☐ Public

☐ Pediatric hospital

☐ Adult hospital

☐ Epilepsy center

☐ General hospital including adult and pediatric care

☐ EpiCARE Center (EPICARE is the network labelled by the European Union for rare and complex epilepsy)

*What is your major role in pediatric epilepsy?

① Check all that apply

- ☐ Clinical activity: mainly outpatient
- ☐ Clinical activity: mainly inpatient
- ☐ Clinical activity: Out and In-patient
- ☐ Clinical research
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Basic research activity
- ☐ Other:

*Are you a member of another epileptic patient care network ?

① Choose one of the following answers

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

PART 2.1: Remote work for clinical practice - Before covid-19 pandemic

The following questions relate to the pre-pandemic situation of covid-19

* Did you use any of the following means to manage your established patients remotely?

	Very frequently	Frequently	Infrequently	Never
Phone calls from family	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Phone calls from primary care physicians	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Letters from family	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Letters from primary care physician	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Electronic messages from family	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Electronic messages from primary care physician	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*Prior to COVID-19, did you utilize telemedicine for clinical care ?

② ie clinical discussions with other providers within in your institution, with other institutions or directly with families

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Rarely (a few times a year)	Used it once	Never
Your institutional system	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your personal system (Zoom, WebEx, skype....)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*Did your institution have their own official telemedicine program ?

② For EPICARE members, this does not include the use and expertise of the EPICARE telework system, which will be specifically addressed later.

① Choose one of the following answers

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

*What type of personal non institutional system for telemedicine did you use?

❶ Check all that apply

☐ Skype

☐ Zoom

☐ WebEx

☐ Lync

☐ Gotomeeting

☐ Other:

*Why did you use this (theses) remote(s) work(s) system(s) ?

❶ Check all that apply

☐ Clinical to communicate with patients

☐ Clinical to communicate with providers within their institution

☐ Clinical to communicate with providers outside their institution

☐ Education of trainees

☐ Research

☐ Other:

PART 2.2: Remote work for clinical practice - AFTER onset of covid-19 pandemic

*General information about pandemic covid-19

	Yes	No
Are you in a region affected by COVID-19 ?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Did the authorities declared a confinement policy in your region ?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Did you have to change planned in-person clinics for patients with rare epilepsy ?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*Are there any changes regarding the following methods of managing your patients remotely?

	More frequent	At the same frequency	Less frequent	Never use
Phone calls from family	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Phone calls from primary care physicians	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Letters from family	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Letters from primary care physician	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Electronic messages from family	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Electronic messages from primary care physician	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*How many of your patients

	All	Most	Few	A few	None
are rescheduled ?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
were rescheduled as telemedicine visits ? (Including phone calls without any remote specific connection, remote specific connections or others)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*Which remote connection do you use for these remote clinics?

❶ Check all that apply

- ☐ An official system of your institution usually available
- ☐ An official system of your institution developed for this crisis
- ☐ A common open access remote
- ☐ Phone calls without any remote specific connection
- ☐ Other:

*During COVID-19 pandemic, how often do you use telemedicine for clinical care ?

❷ ie clinical discussions with other providers within in your institution, with other institutions or directly with families

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Rarely (a few times a year)	Used it once	Never
Your institutional system	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your personal system (Zoom, WebEx, skype....)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*Compared to face-to-face clinic visits,how much time do you spend on telemedicine visits ?

❸ Choose one of the following answers

- ☐ Much shorter
- ☐ Shorter
- ☐ Equal
- ☐ longer
- ☐ Much longer

*Compared to face to face clinic visits, What impact has telemedicine visits had on your decision to :

	Less frequently requested	No change (neutral)	More frequently requested
Change of AEDs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Request bloodwork	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Request EEGs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*Please rate satisfaction with the telemedicine clinics during COVID

	Very unsatisfied	Unsatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very satisfied
From the physician perspective	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
From the family perspective	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*Will the COVID crisis lead to greater use of telemedicine visits in the future, once the crisis is over?

❶ Choose one of the following answers

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know

Please enter your comment here:

*Thank you for taking the time to complete the first and second parts of this survey. At this point, you have already answered over 65% of the questions! We would be grateful if you could complete the remaining two parts, which deal with teaching activity and participation in conferences.

❶ Choose one of the following answers

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Part 3: Remote work for educational purpose

*Are you usually involved in teaching activities?

❶ Choose one of the following answers

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

*Before covid-19 pandemic, select the kind of teaching activities you are involved with:

❶ Check all that apply

- ☐ Online teaching activities including E-learning
- ☐ In person, lectures or small group teaching

*During Covid-19 pandemic, are the teaching activities:

	stopped ?			postponed ?	
	Yes	No		Yes	No
At the hospital	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
At the university	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*How are they modified ?

❶ Check all that apply

- ☐ Video recorded courses
- ☐ Interactive remote courses
- ☐ Paper documents and bibliography
- ☐ Other:

*Is your teaching activity transformed in remote teaching?

❶ Choose one of the following answers

- ☐ Yes, for all courses
- ☐ Yes, for part of the courses
- ☐ No

*Please rate satisfaction with online/telemedicine learning

	Very unsatisfied	Unsatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very satisfied
From your standpoint	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
From the standpoint of your students	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*Would you consider utilizing online or telemedicine teaching more often after the covid-19 crisis?

❶ Choose one of the following answers

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know

Please enter your comment here:

Part 4: Remote work for meetings and symposia

*Between February and July 2020, how many meetings

were you planning to attend ?

were cancelled ?

were postponed ?

were transformed into Visio conference meeting
(WebEx, Skype, Zoom...)?

*If you attended a remote meeting during this time, how satisfied were you with it ?

❶ Choose one of the following answers

- ☐ Very unsatisfied
- ☐ Unsatisfied
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Satisfied
- ☐ Very satisfied

*Do you think the online meeting should be considered more often even after the covid-19 crisis ?

❶ Choose one of the following answers

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know

Please enter your comment here:

*Please specify in what situations online meeting should or should not be considered ?